

*****February 22, 2021*****

The Signal Mountain Town Council held a regular meeting electronically on February 22, 2021. The meeting was called to order at 6:19 p.m. Those present were:

Those present were: Mayor Charles Poss
Vice Mayor Susannah Murdock
Councilmember Vicki Anderson
Councilmember Andrew Gardner
Councilmember Dan Landrum

Also present were: Town Manager Boyd Veal
Town Attorney Harry Cash
Finance Director/Town Recorder Carol White

Mayor Poss led the pledge of allegiance. A moment of silence was observed.

Citizen Comments

Mayor Poss asked if there were any requests to address the Council.

There being no requests, the meeting resumed.

Resolutions

1. "A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE FIRE CHIEF TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION FOR AN ASSISTANCE TO FIREFIGHTERS GRANT THROUGH THE FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY."

Town Manager, Boyd Veal, explained that this is a 95% grant with a 5% match. He said this grant will be used to purchase equipment we would usually purchase.

Councilmember Landrum made a motion to approve the Resolution. Vice Mayor Murdock seconded the motion. The motion was approved by roll call vote, with all Councilmembers present voting in favor of approving the Resolution.

2. "A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE FIRE CHIEF TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION FOR A FIRE PREVENTION AND SAFETY GRANT THROUGH THE FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY'S FIRE PREVENTION AND SAFETY GRANT PROGRAM"

Councilmember Landrum made a motion to approve the Resolution. Councilmember Anderson seconded the motion. The motion was approved by roll call vote, with all Councilmembers present voting in favor of approving the Resolution.

3. "A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH THE ELECTRIC POWER BOARD OF CHATTANOOGA, IN THE AMOUNT OF SEVENTEEN THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED TWENTY ONE DOLLARS AND 57/100 (\$17,221.57) FOR INSTALLATION OF UNDERGROUND ELECTRICAL SERVICE FOR THE LPRF GRANT PROJECT AT MARION AND DRIVER FIELDS."

Councilmember Landrum made a motion to approve the Resolution. Vice Mayor Murdock seconded the motion. The motion was approved by roll call vote, with all Councilmembers present voting in favor of approving the Resolution.

4. "A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO EXECUTE A MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWN OF SIGNAL MOUNTAIN, AND THE PRINCIPAL AGENTS OF THE MOUNTAIN LIBRARY FOUNDATION, PERTAINING TO THE DONATION OF FUNDS TO THE TOWN OF SIGNAL MOUNTAIN AND THE DEDICATION OF SAID FUNDS FOR THE EXPANSION OF THE SIGNAL MOUNTAIN LIBRARY."

Councilmember Landrum made a motion to approve the Resolution. Vice Mayor Murdock seconded the motion. The motion was approved by roll call vote, with all Councilmembers present voting in favor of approving the Resolution.

5. "A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER FOR THE TOWN OF SIGNAL MOUNTAIN, TENNESSEE, TO AWARD A CONTRACT TO J&J CONTRACTORS, INC., IN THE AMOUNT OF SEVEN HUNDRED FIFTY NINE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$759,800.00), AS THE LOWEST RESPONSIBLE BID FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF AN ADDITION TO THE SIGNAL MOUNTAIN LIBRARY INCLUDING ALL WORK DETAILED IN THE PROJECT SPECIFICATIONS AND ENGINEERED PLANS

Councilmember Anderson said that the Library Board had met and recommended J&J Contractors, Inc. Town Attorney, Harry Cash, stated that this action is a defensible position. He said that the A&E firm gave a reasonable and rational reason stating that the other bidder can't do the work in the time allotted.

Councilmember Landrum made a motion to approve the Resolution. Vice Mayor Murdock seconded the motion. The motion was approved by roll call vote, with 4 Councilmembers present voting in favor of approving the Resolution, and Councilmember Gardner abstaining.

Ordinances

- a. "AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTIONS 2-106 AND 2-107 AND CREATING A NEW SECTION 2-108 OF THE SIGNAL MOUNTAIN TOWN CODE."

Councilmember Gardner made a motion to approve the second reading of the Ordinance. Councilmember Anderson seconded the motion. The motion was approved by roll call vote, with

4 Councilmembers present voting in favor of approving the second reading of the Ordinance, and Councilmember Landrum in opposition.

Discussion

- b. Opening of Town Facilities. Mr. Veal informed the Council that the recycle center is shifting operations to resume their original operations. He said that Town Hall is still closed while materials and construction of protection at the counter and signage are obtained. Mr. Veal said that the Fire, Police and Public Works lobbies are open but they are limiting individual access to the work areas. He said the Library Board will make the decision when to open the Library. Mr. Veal said he is concerned about opening the gym. He expressed concern over young gym attendants being responsible for assuring that older adults adhere to COVID protocols.
- c. Recreation Board Membership. Mr. Veal had been asked to bring suggestions to the Council on this issue. He proposed that the Ordinance be changed to designate one Board position as a league representative, with a 1-year term. He further suggested that at the end of each calendar year, the leagues meet to determine who will represent them. Council agreed with the proposal and asked Mr. Veal to draft the Ordinance change and to contact the leagues with this information.
- a. Property Maintenance/Municipal Landscape Ordinance. Council was joined in this discussion by Tree Board members Andrew Hodgson and Joe Horton. Following extensive discussions which included sections 13-205, 13-211, 13-209 and 13-222, it was decided that the Tree Board would analyze the comments from this meeting and review their current recommendations.
- d. Overflow Parking – Rainbow Lake. Council held discussion regarding parking issues on James Boulevard and other side streets. It was decided that staff will review the matter and bring suggestions back to the Council at a future meeting.

Manager's Report

Mr. Veal reported that the engineering is continuing on the Old Town sidewalk project.

Mr. Veal informed the Council that the documents have been submitted to the State for the Marion/Driver grant project.

Other Business

- a. Communications from the Mayor/Council. None.
- b. Reports from Committees or Boards. Vice Mayor Murdock provided some highlights from the Mountain Arts Community Center Board meeting minutes of January 26th.
- c. Other. None

Tentative Agenda

Council discussed a tentative agenda for the March 8, 2021 meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'C. Poss', written over a horizontal line.

Charles Poss, Mayor

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a large loop and a trailing line, written over a horizontal line.

Recorder